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WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE, VICE CHAIR
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the completion of the Processing, Aggregation, Distribution Center portion of the Snohomish County Food and Farming Center in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is Snohomish County located at 3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett, Washington 98021. The funding would be used to complete the addition of processing, aggregation, and distribution facilities at the Snohomish County Food and Farming Center.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because for the last two decades Western Washington farmers have repeatedly identified a lack of infrastructure as a barrier to the viability of their small to midsized farms. On-farm processing equipment is cost prohibitive for small to medium sized farmers in the Pacific Northwest due to a lack of labor to operate and distribute the products. A commercial kitchen will allow for value-added production of local agriculture products that will give farmers the opportunity to capture a higher rate of return.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress